

It is not to be doubted, that the *General* must by *this* time be much better acquainted with every part of his Majesty's service in North America from his Experience in it these two last Campaigns ; but it is possible, that we may not have the same favourable opportunity for making the conquest of Cape Breton another year, that we had this , for I don't think we can absolutely depend upon what the letter-writer so positively asserts, " That a French Army or Fleet cannot " winter in that inhospitable part of the world " [Louisbourg or Canada]. That he is mistaken in the former part of his assertion, no person, who is in the least versed in the history of this war, can be ignorant ; for it is well known that the Troops, which have been sent from France to Louisbourg and Canada, since the commencement of it, have *actually* winter'd there ; and that it is not possible for a Fleet to do the same, tho' there may have been no instance of that, seems far from being certain.

I have been informed, that in 1745, two ships of Sir Peter Warren's squadron wintered in the north east part of Louisbourg harbour : however, from the accounts I have heard, of the exposure of it to the south west winds, the small rise of the tides within the harbour, and the quantities of ice with which it is generally filled at that season, it would be too hazardous for a Fleet to attempt the same ; but, that a very large squadron may safely winter in Chapeau Rouge Bay, I believe there is no doubt to be made ; a French squadron would indeed lie very much exposed there to be attacked by our ships ; and how
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